



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

December 15, 2011

MR. VINCE CLINE
ENGINEERING MANAGER - SCHOOL BUS DIVISION
STARCRAFT BUS
2408 CENTURY DRIVE
GOSHEN, IN 46528

NVS-215kjs
11V-584

SUBJECT: REAR EMERGENCY EXIT DOOR HANDLE

DEAR MR. CLINE:

This letter serves to acknowledge Starcraft Bus' (Starcraft) notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) of a noncompliance with Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 217, " Bus Emergency Exits and Window Retention and Release," for which a safety recall campaign will be conducted pursuant to Federal law for the vehicles listed below.

Please review the following information to ensure that it conforms to your records as this information is being made available to the public. If the information does not agree with your records, please contact us immediately to discuss your concerns.

Makes/Models/Model Years:

STARCRAFT/PRODIGY/2008-2011
STARCRAFT/QUEST/2008-2011

NHTSA Campaign Number: 11V-584 **Mfg's Report Date:** December 8, 2011

Components: LATCHES/LOCKS/LINKAGES:DOORS:LATCH

Potential Number of Units Affected: 1,792

Summary:

STARCRAFT BUS (STARCRAFT) IS RECALLING CERTAIN MODEL YEAR 2008 THROUGH 2011 PRODIGY AND QUEST SCHOOL BUSES AND MFSAB ACTIVITY VEHICLES MANUFACTURED FROM DECEMBER 8, 2008, THROUGH SEPTEMBER 16, 2011, EQUIPPED WITH A CHALLENGER DOOR REAR EMERGENCY EXIT DOOR. DUE TO INSUFFICIENT LUBRICATION ON THE REAR DOOR HANDLE LATCH MECHANISM, THE HANDLE MAY BIND,

REQUIRING SIGNIFICANT FORCE TO OPEN THE REAR DOOR.
ACCORDINGLY, THESE BUSES FAIL TO CONFORM TO THE REQUIREMENTS
OF FEDERAL MOTOR VEHICLE SAFETY STANDARD NO. 217, "BUS
EMERGENCY EXITS AND WINDOW RETENTION AND RELEASE."

Consequence:

IN THE EVENT OF AN EMERGENCY, THE VEHICLE OCCUPANTS MAY BE
UNABLE TO OPEN THE REAR DOOR, WHICH WOULD HINDER EXITING OF
THE BUS, POSSIBLY RESULTING IN INJURY TO THE VEHICLE OCCUPANTS.

Remedy:

STARCRAFT WILL NOTIFY OWNERS, AND DEALERS WILL REPAIR THE
BUSES FREE OF CHARGE. THE SAFETY RECALL IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN IN
DECEMBER 2011. OWNERS MAY CONTACT STARCRAFT AT 1-800-348-7440.

Notes:

STARCRAFT 'S RECALL CAMPAIGN NUMBER IS 11V103000. CUSTOMERS
MAY ALSO CONTACT THE NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY
ADMINISTRATION'S VEHICLE SAFETY HOTLINE AT 1-888-327-423
(TTY 1-800-424-9153), OR GO TO [HTTP://WWW.SAFERCAR.GOV](http://www.safercar.gov).

Under 49 U.S.C. § 30112(a), it is illegal for anyone, including a manufacturer,
distributor, dealer, or retailer to sell an item of equipment or vehicle that fails to comply
with all applicable Federal motor vehicle safety standards.

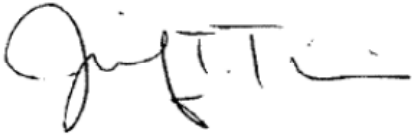
We have received Starcraft's proposed owner notification letter and it is currently under
review. You will be notified of any changes or concerns once our review is complete.

Please be reminded of the following:

Copies of all notices, bulletins, dealer notifications, and other communications
that relate to this recall, including a copy of the final owner notification letter and
any subsequent owner follow-up notification letter(s), are required to be
submitted to this office no later than 5 days after they are originally sent (if they
are sent to more than one manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or purchaser/owner).

Your contacts for this recall will be Kelly Schuler, who may be reached by phone at 1-202-366-5227, or by email at Kelly.Schuler@dot.gov, or through the office email at RMD.ODI@dot.gov. We look forward to working with you for successful completion of this recall campaign.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jennifer Timian". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J" and a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Jennifer Timian
Chief, Recall Management Division
Office of Defects Investigation
Enforcement